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**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

**NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER**

**MILITARY TRAINING ACTIVITY,
SINKIANG MILITARY REGION, CHINA**

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SEPTEMBER 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Recipients of

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SUBJECT: Military Training Activity, Sinkiang Military Region,
China
Photographic Interpretation Report
Dated September 1973

In paragraph 1, change the date of information to read "since
October 1972 " "

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Australia has been added as a recipient of this report.

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MILITARY TRAINING ACTIVITY

SINKIANG MILITARY REGION

1. An increase in the level of military training has been observed at 31 installations in Sinkiang Military Region [REDACTED]. Included in this activity has been the first identification of armored vehicle training (Figure 1), the first live-fire artillery exercises, and the largest AAA gun training exercise ever observed in the region. In addition, new training facilities, including obstacle courses, practice grenade ranges, small-arms firing ranges, and athletic fields have been or are being constructed at barracks and support areas (Figure 2). 25X1
2. The activity has occurred region-wide at such diversified installations as airfields, border-associated facilities, general storage depots, headquarters facilities, and ground forces facilities (Figure 3 and Table 1).
3. The first evidence of armored vehicle training occurred in December 1972 [REDACTED] when fresh track activity was observed in a training area at Wu-lu-mu-chi Hq Hsin-chiang Military District. Eight tanks and an armored personnel carrier were present at the installation. Large-scale training was confirmed in June 1973 [REDACTED] when a new armored vehicle driver training area was identified 4 nautical miles (nm) south of Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL-7 (Figure 1). Thirty-two tanks or assault guns were in the training area and 82 armored vehicles were at the main installation. Tanks were again observed at the training area in August 1973 [REDACTED], suggesting a continuing training cycle. 25X1 25X1 25X1
4. An increased level of field artillery training was also observed in the fall of 1972. Training areas, consisting of artillery revetments and driver training loops, were identified at four regimental-sized artillery installations in the Wu-lu-mu-chi area. At least four exercises of battalion size or larger have taken place since the fall of 1972. These exercises appeared to be driver and gun crew orientation, as no impact area for live-fire exercises could be identified. The first live-fire artillery exercise occurred in March 1973 [REDACTED] when five impact craters were observed 6,560 feet west of six unoccupied artillery positions at Zekta Barracks and Storage Area. Concurrently, a similar exercise took place at A-la-tu-po Army Barracks 2, a known artillery installation. 25X1
5. A possible training cycle for AAA gun training has been identified in Sinkiang Military Region. Annual large-scale exercises, involving from 90 to 174 AAA guns, have taken place in the vicinity of Chang-chi Airfield during the months of July and August since 1971 [REDACTED]. This year, however, a second exercise took place three weeks after the first at Hu-tu-pi Possible AA Training Area, 23 nm west of Chang-chi Airfield. One hundred and seventy-four AA guns were deployed atop hills in what appeared to be a practice bombing range. 25X1
6. In addition, obstacle courses, practice grenade ranges, small-arms firing ranges, and athletic fields, similar to those identified at Po-lo-tung-ku Barracks Area (Figure 2), have been or are being constructed at 22 installations. Thirteen of these installations probably are of regimental size. A dummy tank, used for troop antitank training, was identified at San-tang-hu Barracks Area, near the China/Mongolia border. A dummy tank also has been identified at Ya-erh-pa-shih Airfield.

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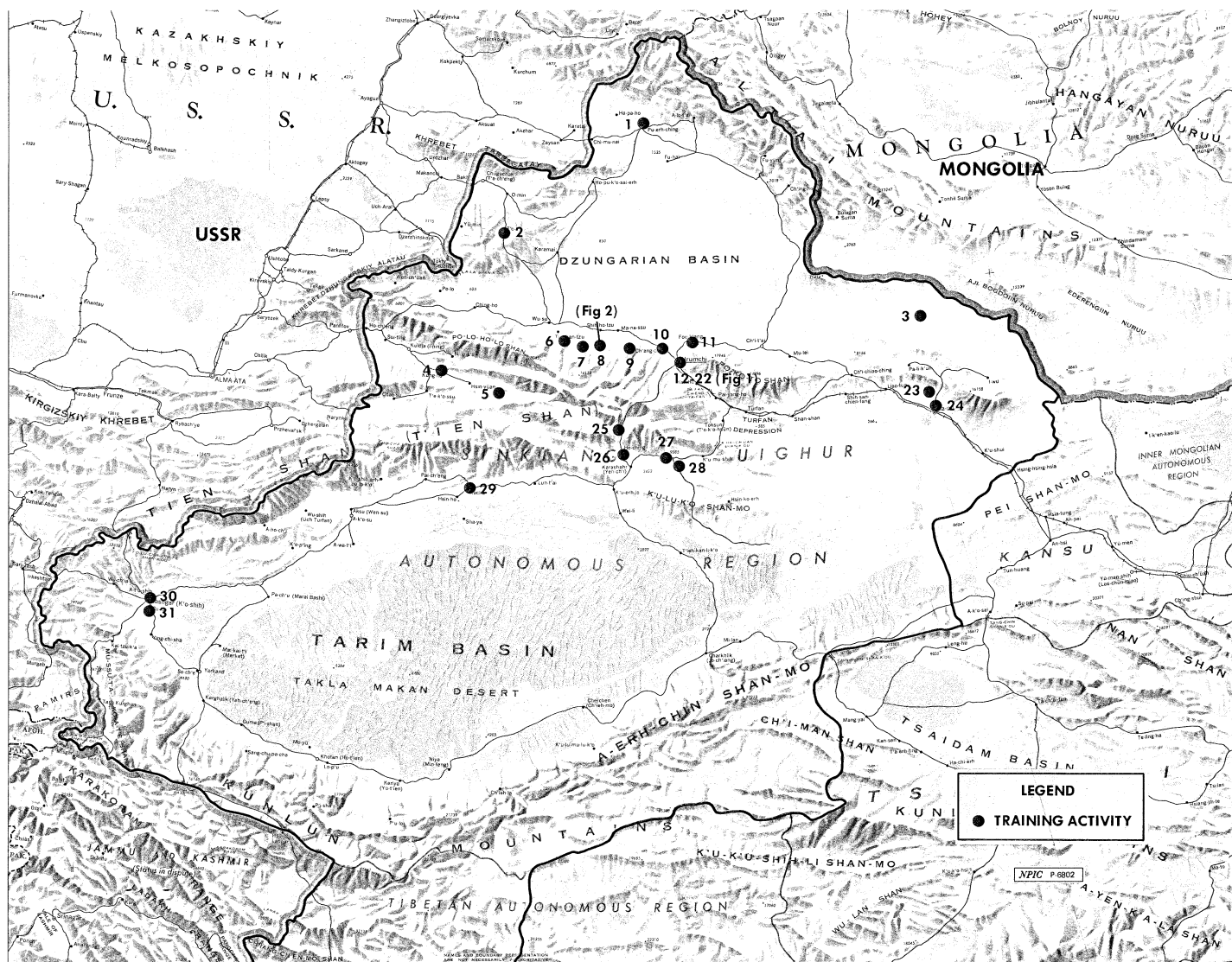


FIGURE 3. MILITARY TRAINING ACTIVITY, SINKIANG MILITARY REGION, CHINA

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